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THE WORKING MEN'S COLLEGE,

45, GREAT ORMOND STREET, BLOOMSBURY, W.C.

SEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT, 1862.

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Associate—Mr. D. LEGGATT.

THE WORKING MEN'S COLLEGE.

Seventh Annual Report by the Principal.

1862.

The year 1861–1862 has been busy with discussions upon Education. The Working Men's College has had no direct interest in these discussions, since it receives no aid from Government. Indirectly, it may contribute some help to the solution of the questions by which Parliament and the country have been agitated. So long as the ends at which Education should aim are determined entirely or chiefly by statistics drawn from schools for children, so long there will be frequent disputes whether the standard should be fixed by the lowest or by the highest classes in those schools. The necessity of Reading, Writing, and Arithmetic will be vehemently urged on one side; the peril of reducing all lessons which we give the poor to merely mechanical lessons, such as were imparted of old by village dames, will be pressed on the other. The practical feelings of Englishmen will be loudly appealed to by the champions of the indispensable arts. The opponents will ask whether the maxim of the Poor Law respecting material food, is to be extended to spiritual food; whether the State is to declare that it is only concerned that its people should have just that amount of knowledge which exceeds the starvation point?

Those who are interested in Colleges for adults, begin from the belief that the State wants good and manly citizens, that the discipline which is best fitted to form these is the best for the State. They may be desirous to give a knowledge of Reading, Writing, and Arithmetic to those who are without it. But they cannot make this the starting-point of their teaching, far less its goal. The work which the man does in the world, his family, his intercourse with men of the same occupation with himself or of different occupations, what he hears from others or feels himself respecting his political rights and obligations, what he hears from others or feels himself about his relations to the unseen world, his struggles for bread, his struggles to be an honest man, these have been already his education; on these and with these materials, the teacher must act if he is to effect anything. The most familiar lessons as well as lessons which many rich men who have had opportunities of obtaining refined culture might account difficult, ought equally to be placed within the working student's reach. Some will require one, some the other; not a few may pass from one to the other. Whatever strengthens, whatever humanizes, belongs to the work of a College. Whether it is intended for rich or for poor, it has no right to its name if it aims at anything less than to strengthen and to humanize the character, if it substitutes any other object however popular or plausible for this. And this object must be set before the grown man, to the intent that he may teach his children the same, to the intent that he may not be satisfied with any schools for them, which do not strengthen them and humanize them, if ever so much common lore or refined lore is communicated in those schools.

By results, undoubtedly all education, whether in a College or a school, must be tried. Some of these results will appear in examinations. *Their*

worth, especially in detecting what is unsound and inefficient, can never be slight. But if those higher results, which can only appear in the personal and social life of the pupils, which can be fixed by no scale, to which no commercial value can be assigned, are forgotten in the pursuit of the tangible producible results, we may call ourselves practical; we shall, in truth, be utterly unpractical; life will be sacrificed to letters, doing to appearance.

We expressed these convictions strongly at the outset of our undertaking. Amidst manifold experiences of our own inability to realize them as we wish, they have lost none of their force for us; they have gained additional force from these very experiences. We have learnt that we must connect our teachings with many pursuits, which in the formal sense are not teachings, provided they make the members of the College more conscious of their obligations to each other and to their country. It was as impossible for us to keep aloof from the Volunteer movement, as to suspend the most popular of our class lessons. Some of us might fear its effects upon those lessons. But the risk, whatever it was, had to be encountered. We must have sacrificed the principle upon which our College was based if we had separated it from an enterprise in which the country as a country was interested, if we had not claimed such an enterprise, as one in which working men had a right to take part. The dangers have proved to be temporary, if they were not imaginary; the good has remained, to harmonize with all the social objects to which class lessons are subordinate.

On the other hand, the same belief has induced us to abstain, perhaps too carefully, from some alliances which might have seemed more natural to a body occupied in popular instruction. The Society of Arts is doing very much to connect institutions for Education together, to test the qualifications of those who belong to them, to diminish their difficulty in obtaining lecturers. All such endeavours, especially when undertaken by a Society which has for a long period done good service to the Arts, and which has obtained the patronage of Government for them, must have the respect and sympathy of those who are concerned in a Working Men's College. If we have not thought it safe to avail ourselves as much as some would have urged us to do, of the countenance which this Society would have afforded us as well as our fellow-labourers, it is not that we desire isolation or are unwilling to take our place as members of a larger and more august body. It is that we have feared lest our own pupils and those who may concern themselves in our proceedings, should ever fancy that we regard our class-instruction as an end instead of a means, or as a means to certain material advantages of the particular student, rather than to the moral elevation of himself and of the class to which he belongs. Many benefits we think should be foregone rather than that any misunderstanding of this kind should be encouraged. A connection with such a body as the London University, explains the meaning of the title which we have assumed. A connection with such a body as the Society of Arts, however honourable and gratifying to us, might, we feared, have confused it. But after this explanation, we would gladly encourage our pupils to avail themselves of the opportunities which that or any similar institution may afford, for ascertaining whether they have been learning anything from us or no

It has been a great satisfaction to us during this year, that a "City of London College" has been formed under very distinguished patronage, and we trust with every hope of success. The foundation of it was laid in those evening classes which laboured for some years so beneficially in Crosby Hall. It has no connection with our College; but the adoption of a similar name is a witness that intelligent and earnest men are feeling the importance of the principle which that name asserts. We trust that the new Institution may do far more to justify the use of that name than we have done, and that each may stimulate and sustain the other.

With respect to the Colleges out of London which are in connection with ours, we have fewer details to present than we should wish; though all we know are satisfactory, except that the Cambridge College has ceased to exist. One of the Manchester Colleges has transferred its pupils to the Evening Classes of Owens College, which was established some years ago for the benefit of the middle classes in that town. It is working, we doubt not, more efficiently for the union. If it has the effect of making those whom the elder Institution proposed to benefit, more alive to their relations with the working people, it must be doing just what is wanted, and never more wanted than at this crisis, for a great manufacturing city. The Wolverhampton College is working now, as ever, earnestly and successfully. The First Report of the Ayr College is given in the third volume of our Magazine, and we have lately received intelligence of the establishment of a College at Plymouth with 150 members. The last Report of the Salford College shows the number of their Students to be 361 (of whom only 72 are Clerks, 126 Labourers and Mill-hands, and the rest Artisans and Handicraftsmen); it also states that "continued development and successful progress have hitherto attended every department of the College," that the Adult Female Classes, the Boys' Day School of 123 pupils, the Girls' School of 90, and the Girls' Music Class, and the Boys' Evening Classes, are progressing satisfactorily, while the balance-sheet exhibits the College with its own freehold free from debt. Above all, a paper which has been recently sent us from Dundee, gives a most promising account of the youngest of these Colleges. The total, we are told, of the Students in the first term was 853; 317 of whom were in the Arithmetic Class, 210 in the Writing and Bookkeeping Class, 148 in the English Grammar and Composition Class. There were 68 Students in Algebra and Geometry, 28 in the Outlines of Science, 66 in French, 16 in German. Though there are the same persons in various classes, we must own that our Dundee friends are very far in advance of us, whom they are kind enough to consider in some sense their parents. The lists which we append of our own classes in the North of London, must make us ashamed when we compare them with those of a Northern provincial city. Yet we must needs rejoice that Scotland is vindicating her old claim to be a country in which knowledge is regarded as the highest wealth, and poverty is cheerfully borne for the sake of it.

The papers which accompany this present Report, if less brilliant than the one to which we have just referred, are yet in nowise discouraging. The numbers of the College increase, if at no very rapid rate. It is not rich, and cannot dispense with subscriptions; but it is free from all dishonourable embarrassments. Much has been done to save us from any such

perils by the Finance Committee; a body of students who show their interest in the College in the most satisfactory and substantial manner by devoting themselves to the care of its property and expenditure. Those students who undertake the Preparatory Classes, have given equal proofs in another way of their zeal and fidelity; and not a few have shown that they are willing to go forth into other parts of London to assist as teachers in Institutions which have been formed for the benefit of their fellow-workers.

In addition to the regular lessons in classes which appear on our lists, miscellaneous lectures have been open to the whole College on every Saturday during the months of October, 1861—May, 1862. A 'History of America since the Revolution,' by Mr. Ludlow, with an 'Appendix on Kansas,' by Mr. Hughes, has arisen out of lectures given to our students. It may be remembered that other books upon other subjects, especially a valuable work on the 'Principles of Drawing,' by Mr. Ruskin, have had the same origin. 'A Popular Manual of the Constitutional History of England,' by our valued friend Mr. Bennett, has been just formed out of the notes of his lectures. We trust that many works may hereafter be added to the literature of our country by members of the College. If that permanent benefit should be secured, we should be the less grieved for the discontinuance of the 'College Magazine.' This publication has been maintained for three years past amidst some discouragement, but we have at length suspended it, the support given it by the different bodies which it was meant to represent and to unite, not having proved sufficient to defray its expenses.*

Donations, 1861.

	£	s.	d.
Mr. J. Bromhall	0	4	0
J. Campbell, Esq.	1	0	0
Mrs. Grahame	1	0	0
A. Johnston, Esq. (Building Fund)	2	0	0
Vernon Lushington, Esq.	10	10	0
Robert Mansfield, Esq.	5	0	0
W. H. Milligan, Esq.	1	0	0
Sir T. Phillips	3	3	0
Dr. Skey	2	2	0
Miss Annie Smith	3	3	0
Henry Vaughan, Esq.	10	10	0
	£39	12	0

Since received.

John Campbell, Esq.	1	0	0
College of Preceptors	1	1	0
Godfrey Lushington, Esq.	5	5	0
Robert Mansfield, Esq.	5	0	0
Miss Annie Smith	2	2	0
	£14	8	0

* The deficiency has fallen upon individuals, not upon the finances of the College. It is intended in future to embody in the periodical 'Reports' fuller accounts of both the London and the country Colleges.

TABLE *showing the Attendance on the various Classes, and the Total of Members entered each Term, from the Second Term of the Seventh Year to the First Term of the Eighth Year,* (*January to Christmas,* 1861.)

	Seventh Year.			Eighth Year.		
	Second Term.	Third Term.	Fourth Term.	First Vacation Term.	Second Vacation Term.	First Term.
Drawing	49	37	39	6	2	41
Latin	19	18	15	7	5	23
French	64	82	60	22	16	104
German	13	15	10	7	7	20
English Grammar	24	31	25	15	—	32
English Composition	7	8	6	5	6	16
Mental Philosophy	9	7	5	—	—	—
Bookkeeping	9	10	8	—	—	14
Arithmetic	10	13	7	4	6	24
Algebra	10	12	8	5	2	18
Geometry	10	17	13	8	6	11
Trigonometry	—	—	—	—	—	9
The Microscope	—	—	—	—	—	10
Botany	—	—	—	2	—	7
Geology	4	4	5	3	—	7
Physiology	6	—	—	—	—	—
History of England	9	10	10	2	—	14
Preparatory Classes	34	38	22	9	2	35
Total number of Students entered each Term	398	364	362	101	125	485*
Vocal Music Class, Elementary, (in connection with the College, but paying no fees to it) open to persons of both sexes	—	—	—	—	—	106
Vocal Music Class, Advanced, ditto	—	—	—	—	—	35

* These numbers include the Members of the College Rifle Corps (part of the 19th Middlesex), some of whom attend no Class.

The Principal's Class in Biblical History, etc., being free, no record is kept of its attendance.

EIGHTH YEAR, FIRST TERM.

Occupations of Students attending Classes.

DRAWING.

Clerks	9
Engravers	3
Jewellers	3
Wood Engravers	3
Architectural Students	2
Joiners	2
Glass Painter	1
Decorator	1
Draughtsman	1
Goldsmith	1
Carpenter	1
Pianoforte Maker	1
Coach Trimmer	1

DRAWING.

Wire Worker	1
Die Sinker	1
Engineer	1
Writer	1
Teacher	1
Ironmonger	1
Brewer	1
Warehouseman	1
Hatter	1
Shoemaker	1
Bristle Sorter	1
Not named	1
	41

ALGEBRA.

Clerks	7
Architect and Surveyor	1
Turner	1
Bookbinder	1
Engineers	2
Painter	1
Carpenter	1
Compositor	1
Machinist	1
Pallet Maker	1
Not named	1
	18

ENGLISH GRAMMAR.

Clerks	9
Printers & Compositors	6
Shopmen and Assistants	4
Tailors	2
Gilders	2
Instrument Maker	1
Jeweller	1
Bookbinder	1
Spinner	1
Joiner	1
Turner	1
Commercial Traveller	1
Not named	2
	32

ENGLISH COMPOSITION.

Clerks	11
Assistants	2
Watchmaker	1
Blacksmith	1
Letter Sorter	1
	16

ENGLISH HISTORY.

Clerks	7
Schoolmaster	1
Assistant	1
Letter Sorter	1
Gold Refiner	1
Coach Builder	1
Upholsterer	1
Printer	1
	14

GEOLOGY.

Clerks	3
Inland Revenue Officers	2
Assistants	2
	7

ARITHMETIC.

Clerks	8
Printers	2
House Painters	2
Letter Carrier	1
Assistant	1
Gilder	1
Bookbinder	1
Saddler	1
Carpenter	1
Gas Fitter	1
Engraver	1
Goldsmith	1
Wood Engraver	1
Machinist	1
Not named	1
	24

THE MICROSCOPE.

Clerks	2
Assistant	1
Schoolmaster	1
Veterinary Surgeon	1
Saddler	1
Jeweller	1
Joiner	1
Fitter	1
Printer	1
	10

PREPARATORY.

Clerks	14
Shopmen, Assistants, & Warehousemen	6
Tailors	2
Letter Sorter	1
Shirt-Collar Maker	1
Carver and Gilder	1
Pianoforte Maker	1
Engineer	1
Gas Fitter	1
Joiner	1
Compositor	1
Not named	5
	35

GEOMETRY.

Clerks	5
Warehouseman	1
Goldsmith	1
Engineer	1
Shoemaker	1
Gas Fitter	1
Not named	1
	11

LATIN.

Clerks	9
Shopmen and Assistants	5
Schoolmasters	3
Messenger	1
Engraver	1
Printer	1
Shoemaker	1
Baker	1
Not named	1
	23

GERMAN.

Clerks	12
Assistants	4
Carpenter	1
Joiner	1
Engineer	1
Brazier	1
	20

TRIGONOMETRY.

Clerks	3
Stationer	1
Compositor	1
Mill Sawyer	1
Bootmaker	1
Pallet Maker	1
Machinist	1
	9

BOOKKEEPING.

Clerks	8
Joiner	1
Cabinet Maker	1
Shop Fitter	1
Saddler	1
Messenger	1
Butcher	1
	14

FRENCH.

Clerks	52
Shopmen, Warehousemen and Assistants	13
Schoolmasters & Teachers	6
Tailors	4
Upholsterers	4
Jewellers	3
Compositors	2
Joiners	2
Wood Carver	1
Decorator	1
Surgeon	1
Dispenser	1
Jewel-case Maker	1
Bookbinder	1
Gas Fitter	1
Grainer	1
Machinist	1
Mill Sawyer	1
Pocket-book Maker	1
Letter Sorter	1
Engraver	1
Painter	1
Battery Maker	1
Chandelier Maker	1
Brewer	1
Not named	1
	104

BOTANY.

Inland Revenue Officers	3
Law Writer	1
Shirt-collar Maker	1
Lithographer	1
Brazier	1
	7

Abstract of Secretary's Cash Account.

Dr.	£	*s.*	*d.*	*Cr.* 1861.	£	*s.*	*d.*
To Balance December, 1860	206	15	8	By Interest on Mortgage, Insurance, Rates and Taxes	76	14	8
,, Donations	39	12	0	,, Class Teachers (French and German)	36	11	0
,, Students' Fees	299	4	0	,, Salaries	100	2	4
,, Secretary, Rent	10	0	0	,, House Repairs, Fittings, and Furniture	31	12	7
,, Girls' School, do.	5	0	0	,, Printing and Advertising	21	15	6
,, Interest on £300 in 3 per Cents., less Income-tax	7	4	1	,, Firing and Lighting	73	17	6
,, Library Catalogues and Sundries	1	17	7	,, Library, Office Expenses, House Expenses, and Sundries	20	9	6
,, Adult School	25	4	6	,, Adult School	29	4	9
,, Rent of No. 44, Great Ormond Street, to Michaelmas, less Insurance and Sundry Expenses	112	1	4	,, Investment in 3 per Cents.	279	15	0
				,, Balance	36	16	4
	£706	19	2		£706	19	2

Estimated Assets and Liabilities.

	£	*s.*	*d.*		£	*s.*	*d.*
Freehold House and Ground, 45, Great Ormond Street, with Library, Fittings, Furniture, etc.	2000	0	0	Mortgage on 45, Great Ormond Street	800	0	0
Freehold House and Ground, 44, Great Ormond Street	1400	0	0	Mortgage on 44, ditto	550	0	0
One Quarter's Rent on ditto to Christmas, less Income-tax	24	1	3	Gas, Printing, Taxes, and Sundries	39	5	3
Half-year's Interest on £300 in 3 per Cents., less Income-tax	4	6	7	Balance	2360	13	11
Girls' School	5	0	0				
Investment, 3 per Cents.	279	15	0				
Cash Balance	36	16	4				
	£3749	19	2		£3749	19	2

Examined and found correct,

Henry E. Rawlins,
J. R. Evans, } *Auditors.*